

**On the origin of  
tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> over  
the Indian Ocean**

A. T. J. de Laat

# **On the origin of tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> over the Indian Ocean during the winter monsoon: African biomass burning vs. stratosphere-troposphere exchange**

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## Abstract

A comparison and analysis of modeled and measured O<sub>3</sub> profiles from the INDOEX campaign is presented. European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecast (ECMWF) meteorological analyses have been assimilated into the model to represent actual meteorology. The focus of this study is on two commonly observed features in the O<sub>3</sub> profiles: mid tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> maxima (300–500 hPa) over the tropical Indian Ocean, and the upper-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> laminae that occur above approximately 14 km (> 150 hPa) altitude. A comparison of model simulated O<sub>3</sub> profiles with measured O<sub>3</sub> profiles indicates that the model realistically simulates the observed mid-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> maxima. An analysis of the model simulations shows that the major source of the mid-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> maxima is advection of polluted air masses from continental biomass burning areas over Africa, with generally only a small contribution of stratospheric O<sub>3</sub>. Previous studies hinted at Stratosphere-Troposphere exchange (STE) along the subtropical jet (STJ) as the primary source of the mid-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> maxima over the Indian Ocean.

Analysis of the model simulations shows that the mechanism causing the mid-tropospheric transport of African biomass burning pollution and stratospheric air masses are frontal zones or waves passing along the subtropical jets, causing advection of tropical air masses in the prefrontal zone. Furthermore, these frontal zones or waves also cause STE at the mid-latitudinal side of the STJ. The model simulations also indicate that the contribution of STE in general is minor compared to advection and in situ tropospheric production of O<sub>3</sub> for the mid-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> budget over the Indian Ocean region.

An analysis of the model simulations shows that the model cannot exactly reproduce the measured upper-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> maxima. However, modeled O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios at 14 and 16 km altitude are significantly higher than at 8 to 12 km altitude, indicating that the model does simulate an upper-tropospheric layer. According to the model simulations, the sources of O<sub>3</sub> at 14 and 16 km altitude are advection of both tropospheric

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and stratospheric O<sub>3</sub> as well as in situ O<sub>3</sub> formation.

## 1. Introduction

The INdian Ocean Experiment (INDOEX) has provided invaluable observations about the chemical composition of the Indian Ocean atmosphere, in particular O<sub>3</sub>, during the winter monsoon period (typical November-April). The INDOEX measurements show the presence of free-tropospheric layers with enhanced O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios (de Laat et al., 1999; Zachariasse et al., 2000; Zachariasse et al., 2001). These layers can be found throughout the free troposphere. Generally, a typical O<sub>3</sub> profile over the Indian Ocean can be divided into several layers. In the marine boundary layer O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios are generally low, caused by an O<sub>3</sub>-destructive environment (de Laat and Lelieveld, 2000). Between the boundary layer and 8 km O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios are higher. Between 8 and 12 to 14 km is the zone where convective outflow occurs. This layer can be either high or low in O<sub>3</sub>, depending on the origin of the air masses that were transported by the convection to this altitude. Finally, an upper-tropospheric layer may be found between 12 to 14 km and the tropopause (typically 17 km over the tropical Indian Ocean). In this layer O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios are generally high, although on occasion the layer of convective outflow may extend up to the tropopause.

The upper-tropospheric layers with enhanced O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios are also reported by Folkins et al. (1999), in O<sub>3</sub> profiles measured at Samoa (14 S, 170 W) in the Pacific Ocean. Based on the O<sub>3</sub> –  $\theta_e$  (equivalent potential temperature) correlation they concluded that air masses below 14 km altitude generally were of tropospheric origin, whereas above 14 km the correlation suggested a stratospheric origin. Furthermore, Folkins et al. (1999) used temperature and humidity profiles to show that convection generally cannot reach altitudes above 14 km over tropical oceans.

Zachariasse et al. (2000) reported similar upper-tropospheric layers with enhanced O<sub>3</sub> during the First Field Phase (FFP) of INDOEX, which took place during February and March 1998. They used trajectory analysis and potential vorticity fields derived

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from the European Center for Medium-Range Weather Forecast (ECMWF) to conclude that STE along the northern hemispheric subtropical jet (NH-STJ) was the major source of the upper-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> laminae, either by shear-induced differential advection or clear-air turbulence. An example of such upper-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> laminae is shown in Fig. 1, along with the corresponding temperature profiles. The tropopause should be located around 16 to 17 km altitude according to temperature profiles. Upper-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> laminae can be found between 13 and 17 km, while an O<sub>3</sub> minimum exists between 10 and 13 km, the typical altitude of convective outflow. The maximum altitude of approximately 13 km that convection can reach, as reported by Folkins et al. (1999), was also derived from the INDOEX temperature and humidity profiles.

The O<sub>3</sub> profiles in Zachariasse et al. (2000) often showed mid-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> maxima. The mid-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> maxima were often very dry. Zachariasse et al. (2000) used this as an indication that the polluted boundary layer over the northern Indian Ocean and India could not be the source of the mid-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> maxima. They also noted that mid-tropospheric air masses might travel deep into the tropics.

In de Laat et al. (1999) similar mid-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> maxima observed during March and April 1995 were reported. However, these measurements were made closer to Africa (see Fig. 2) and also close to the ITCZ. A model and trajectory analysis showed that the major source of these maxima was biomass burning over Africa, with a possible contribution from STE along the southern hemispheric subtropical jet (SH-STJ). O<sub>3</sub> profiles measured at Réunion Island during the same period also showed enhanced mid-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios (Baray et al., 1999). Their trajectory and potential vorticity analysis indicated that STE due to the interaction of tropical cyclone Marlene with the SH-STJ could give rise to the O<sub>3</sub> maxima they measured. Baray et al. (2001) noted in a comment on de Laat et al. (1999) that some profiles from both de Laat et al. (1999) and Baray et al. (1999) might have the same source regions since they were measured at close locations and at approximately the same time. Baray et al. (2001) questioned whether biomass burning really could be the source because the biomass burning season in Africa south of the equator ends in December. However, in a sub-

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sequent reply de Laat and Lelieveld (2001) used 3-D global chemistry-climate model simulations to show that STE was not the source of the O<sub>3</sub> maxima. Furthermore, they also noted that the modeled O<sub>3</sub> maxima were associated with high CO peaks, another indication that the source of the O<sub>3</sub> maxima was tropospheric. In a case study of an extreme pollution event over Réunion Island (Randriambelo et al., 1999) the authors indicate the need for more thorough model analyses of the chemical and dynamical processes taking place over the southern Indian Ocean region.

More recently, a study by de Laat et al. (2001) investigated the tropospheric source regions of Carbon Monoxide (CO) over the Indian Ocean. Some indications were found of a contribution of African biomass burning to free-tropospheric air masses over the northern Indian Ocean.

## 2. Model description

The general circulation model (GCM) used for this study is the 19-layer European Center Hamburg Model (ECHAM), version 4. Model simulations were performed at T30-resolution, approximately 3.75° × 3.75° with a time resolution of 1800 s. The model uses a hybrid  $\sigma - \rho$  vertical coordinate system from the surface to 10 hPa. Average pressure levels are 990, 970, 950, 900, 840, 760, 670, 580, 490, 400, 320, 250, 190, 140, 100, 70, 50, 30 and 10 hPa. Corresponding approximate midlayer altitudes are 0.03, 0.14, 0.38, 0.78, 1.4, 2.1, 3.1, 4.2, 5.6, 7.0, 8.6, 10.2, 11.9, 13.8, 15.9, 18.0, 20.5, 23.8 and 31 km. Tracer transport is calculated using a semi-Lagrangian advection scheme (Rasch and Williamson, 1990). Vertical transport is included through parameterizations of vertical diffusion (Roeckner et al., 1996) and convection (Tiedtke, 1989). A detailed description of ECHAM version 4 is given by Roeckner et al. (1995), Haskins et al. (1995), and Chen and Roeckner (1996).

For this study I used the standard background chemistry scheme which includes CH<sub>4</sub>-CO-NO<sub>x</sub>-HO<sub>x</sub> chemistry, emissions of NO and CO, dry deposition of O<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, HNO<sub>3</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, and wet deposition of HNO<sub>3</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>. Concentration changes due

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to chemical reactions are calculated explicitly for all species by means of an Eulerian Backward Iterative (EBI) scheme (Hertel et al., 1993). A detailed description of the coupled chemistry GCM is given by Roelofs and Lelieveld (1995, 1997).

5 The model considers a biomass burning source of  $6 \text{ Tg N yr}^{-1}$  for NO and of  $700 \text{ Tg CO yr}^{-1}$  for CO, distributed according to Hao and Liu (1994). NO emissions from soils,  $5.5 \text{ Tg N yr}^{-1}$ , are distributed according to Yienger and Levy (1995). Lightning  $\text{NO}_x$  emissions,  $5 \text{ Tg yr}^{-1}$ , are distributed according to Price and Rind (1992). The model considers global NO emissions from fossil fuel burning on the order of  $21 \text{ Tg N yr}^{-1}$ , according to Benkovitz et al. (1996). Anthropogenic CO emissions are distributed according to Lelieveld and van Dorland, consisting of fossil fuel burning (450  $\text{Tg CO yr}^{-1}$ ), vegetation (100  $\text{Tg CO yr}^{-1}$ ), natural non-methane hydrocarbon oxidation (280  $\text{Tg CO yr}^{-1}$ ), anthropogenic non-methane hydrocarbon oxidation (300  $\text{Tg CO yr}^{-1}$ ), oceanic emissions (40  $\text{Tg CO yr}^{-1}$ ), and wildfires (30  $\text{Tg CO yr}^{-1}$ ). The total NO and CO emissions considered in the model are  $37.5 \text{ Tg NO yr}^{-1}$  and  $1900 \text{ Tg CO yr}^{-1}$ . Methane ( $\text{CH}_4$ ) surface concentrations are prescribed, ranging from 1772 ppm in the northern hemisphere to 1680 ppm in the southern hemisphere.

The parameterization for dry deposition of  $\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{NO}_x$  and  $\text{HNO}_3$  is described in Ganzeveld and Lelieveld (1995) and Ganzeveld et al. (1998). The wet scavenging of  $\text{HNO}_3$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  is calculated using the large-scale and convective cloud and precipitation fields calculated on-line by the climate model as described by Roelofs and Lelieveld (1995, 1997).

25 Stratospheric  $\text{O}_3$  mixing ratios are prescribed between 1 and 2 model layers above the tropopause up to the 10 hPa top level of the GCM. Transport of  $\text{O}_3$  across the tropopause depend directly on the air motions simulated by the GCM. The simulated tropopause is marked by a potential vorticity of  $3.5 \cdot 10^{-6} \text{ K m}^2 \text{ kg}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-2}$  poleward of  $20^\circ$  latitude (Hoerling et al., 1993), and by a  $-2 \text{ K km}^{-1}$  temperature lapse rate equatorward of  $20^\circ$  latitude.

The model realistically represents the seasonal variability of the  $\text{O}_3$  photochemical production and of  $\text{O}_3$  transport from the stratosphere (Roelofs and Lelieveld, 1995,

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1997). Surface O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios as measured in remote and relatively clean conditions are also reproduced by the model, but the model appears to underestimate the O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios in some polluted regions because of neglect of non-methane hydrocarbon chemistry (Roelofs et al., 1997).

5 In this study, the so-called “nudging” technique, using ECMWF analyses, was used to simulate specific periods. This method is described more extensively by Jeuken et al. (1996) and de Laat et al. (1999). The periods for which the ECHAM model was nudged in this study were 16 March – 30 April 1995, and 1 February – 1 April 1998. We note that the nudging method has been used for several other studies (Kentarchos  
10 et al., 1999, 2000 and 2001; de Laat et al., 2001; de Laat and Lelieveld, 2000, 2002).

### 3. Observations

The O<sub>3</sub> profiles used in this study were obtained from two pre-INDOEX ship-campaigns. The first campaign took place during March and April of 1995 with the R/V Malcolm Baldrige. From this campaign we used sixteen O<sub>3</sub> profiles that were measured along a  
15 track from Durban, South Africa to Colombo, Sri Lanka (Fig. 2). Surface measurements of several trace gases, aerosols and meteorological parameters were made along with the soundings. For a detailed description and results of this campaign see Rhoads et al. (1997) and de Laat et al. (1999).

The second campaign took place during February and March 1998 as part of the  
20 INDOEX First Field Phase (FFP), a larger preparatory campaign for the INDOEX Intensive Field Phase that would take place during the same months one year later in 1999. The Indian R/V Sagar Kanya sailed from southern India to the Indian Ocean east of Madagascar (Fig. 2). As in the 1995 campaign, O<sub>3</sub> sondes were launched and surface measurements were made.

25 The O<sub>3</sub> sondes were balloon-borne Electrochemical Concentration Cell (ECC) O<sub>3</sub> sondes (model 1z, En-Sci Corp., Boulder, Colorado) coupled to Väsiälä radiosondes (model RS80, Väsiälä USA, Woburn, Massachusetts). The accuracy of the O<sub>3</sub> sensor

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varies from  $\pm 1$ – $2$  ppbv below 5 km to  $\pm 5$  ppbv at 10 km and  $\pm 20$  ppbv at 20 km altitude (Smit et al., 1994, 1995). Tables 1 and 2 summarize the ship tracks and locations where the  $O_3$  profiles were measured.

#### 4. Measured and modeled $O_3$ profiles

##### 4.1. 1995 profiles

Figure 3a shows  $O_3$  profiles measured from the ship cruise of R/V Malcolm Baldrige during March and April 1995. An analysis of profiles 6 to 13 can be found in de Laat et al. (1999). Additionally profiles 9 and 10 are also discussed in de Laat and Lelieveld (2001). For the exact location of the  $O_3$  profiles, see Table 1. Profiles 6 to 13 were launched south of the ITCZ. The most striking features in profiles 6 to 13 are the low  $O_3$  mixing ratios in the marine boundary layer ( $O_3$  destructive environment), mid-tropospheric  $O_3$  maxima, which can be attributed to biomass burning over Africa, and low upper-tropospheric  $O_3$  mixing ratios, which are likely caused by vertical transport of marine boundary layer air due to convection. Furthermore  $O_3$  laminae are present in most profiles between 14 and 17 km, most notably profiles 6 and 7. Figure 3a and b show the modeled  $O_3$  and CO profiles. Generally speaking the model reproduces the observed  $O_3$  profiles. The model cannot reproduce smaller  $O_3$  features in the profiles because of the low horizontal and vertical resolution. The low horizontal resolution may cause some displacement of modeled gradients compared to actual location of the gradients because the observations were done in a region with sharp horizontal gradients. This may result in discrepancies between modeled and observed  $O_3$  profiles (for example profile 9, see de Laat et al., 1999, for a detailed analysis). Modeled  $O_3$  correlates well with modeled CO for mid-tropospheric  $O_3$  maxima, indicating that the mid-tropospheric  $O_3$  maxima have a tropospheric origin. Trajectories showed that the air masses originated from biomass burning regions over central Africa (de Laat et al., 1999).

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Figure 3b also shows O<sub>3</sub> profiles from soundings launched during the 1995 cruise of the R/V Malcolm Baldrige, which have not been published before. The ITCZ was located close to profiles 14 and 15. Boundary layer O<sub>3</sub> is low, whereas free tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> is high. With the exception of profile 15 and maybe profile 18, no clear upper-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> minima can be discerned in the measured profiles. This is not the case for the modeled profiles, which still show upper-tropospheric minima. However, the largest discrepancies between the measured and modeled profiles occur close to the ITCZ (profiles 14 to 17). It can be expected that the model cannot reproduce the exact location of the ITCZ at the current model resolution because generally the convective surface area (typically 10–1000 km<sup>2</sup>) is much smaller than the model gridsize (typically 100 000 km<sup>2</sup>). Further away from the ITCZ (profiles 18 to 21) this is less of a problem.

Mid-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios are generally high for all profiles, also north of the ITCZ, and are reproduced by the model. As with profiles 6 to 13 in Fig. 3a, modeled mid-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> peaks are associated with high modeled CO mixing ratios, which is indicative of a tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> source.

O<sub>3</sub> laminae occur between 12 and 17 km altitude in all measured O<sub>3</sub> profiles for 1995. The model does not exactly reproduce these laminae. However, in profiles 6, 7 and 21 there is no O<sub>3</sub> minimum anymore at 14 and 16 km altitude. This is a first indication that model simulates an upper-tropospheric layer that may resemble the observed upper-tropospheric maxima.

#### 4.2. 1998 (FFP) profiles

Figure 4a and b show vertical profiles from the 1998 INDOEX IFP O<sub>3</sub> soundings. An analysis of these profiles can be found in Zachariasse et al. (2000). For the details of the location and time of launch of these soundings, see Table 2. The overall features of the 1998 profiles are similar to those measured in 1995: Low boundary layer O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios, mid-tropospheric maxima and minima, and upper-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> laminae between 14 and 17 km altitude. However, mid-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios are generally

lower for the FFP-profiles than for the 1995 profiles. Modeled  $O_3$  profiles are similar to measured  $O_3$  profiles. Large discrepancies only exist for profile 15, with an observed mid-tropospheric minimum and a modeled mid-tropospheric maximum, and profile 2, for which the model does not reproduce the observed upper-tropospheric minimum. As for the 1995 profiles, the model does not capture the upper-tropospheric  $O_3$  laminae very well, but no upper tropospheric  $O_3$  minima are present in the modeled profiles, with the exception of profiles 14 and 15. Furthermore,  $O_3$  mixing ratios increase from an altitude of 12 km and higher for most modeled profiles.

Modeled CO profiles corresponding to the measured  $O_3$  profiles are somewhat different to the modeled 1995 CO profiles. Generally, modeled mid-tropospheric CO mixing ratios are lower during 1998 than during 1995. This corresponds with lower mid-tropospheric  $O_3$  mixing ratios for the 1998 profiles, which one would expect if  $O_3$  and CO have the same source. Boundary layer CO mixing ratios north of the ITCZ are higher compared to 1995. Considering that the FFP profiles were measured earlier in the year (March) compared to 1995 (April), the discrepancies can be explained as follows. According to de Laat and Lelieveld (2002) the strength of the boundary layer continental outflow from India to the Indian Ocean weakens considerably during March and April, lowering the boundary layer levels of pollution. Furthermore, the convective outflow in the free troposphere (divergent flow away from the convection) at the ITCZ will be balanced by the mid-tropospheric inflow of polluted air masses from the subtropics. A weak ITCZ allows the polluted free tropospheric subtropical air masses north and south of the equator to be advected further equatorward than in case of a strong ITCZ. The ITCZ is generally stronger during March than during April over the Indian Ocean. Therefore, more boundary layer air is vertically mixed at the ITCZ during March than during April. Furthermore, a stronger ITCZ causes a stronger divergent upper-tropospheric flow that can transport the “clean” air masses further away from the ITCZ. Thus, free tropospheric  $O_3$  and CO mixing ratios will be lower and cover a larger area during March compared to April. The result is that free tropospheric  $O_3$  and CO mixing ratios are lower for the 1998 profiles compared to the 1995 profiles.

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The ECHAM model also provides a separate tracer for  $O_3$  that originates from the stratosphere (hereafter  $O_{3s}$ ). The influence of STE along the subtropical jets on tropospheric  $O_3$  can be derived for the modeled profiles using this tracer. Figure 5 shows modeled  $O_{3s}$  profiles for the 1998 soundings. With the exception of profiles 13 and 14, the contribution of  $O_{3s}$  to total tropospheric  $O_3$  is relatively small (less than 20%). On the other hand, the mid-tropospheric  $O_3$  features in profiles 6, 7, 12, 13 and 14 are at least partly of stratospheric origin. The contribution of  $O_{3s}$  can be as high as 50% for profiles 13 and 14.

Modeled CO mixing ratios above 12 km altitude decrease to approximately 50 to 60 ppbv around 18 km altitude (see Figs. 3 and 4). Modeled free tropospheric CO mixing ratios higher than 50 to 60 ppbv indicates a tropospheric origin, while lower mixing ratios indicate a stratospheric origin (unless  $O_3$  mixing ratios are low, which indicates vertical mixing of very clean marine boundary layer air masses). Such low CO mixing ratios are not modeled for any of the 1998 (or 1995) profiles. Interestingly, the highest  $O_{3s}$  contribution is modeled for profiles 13 and 14, which also showed the highest mid-tropospheric CO mixing ratios modeled for 1998. Based on the modeled profiles and the correlation between  $O_3$  and CO peaks for both 1995 and 1998 we can conclude that, in general, mid-tropospheric  $O_3$  maxima have a tropospheric origin. According to 1998 profiles 13 and 14, there also may be a relation between STE and the advection of  $O_3$  and CO rich tropospheric air.

## 5. Mid-tropospheric $O_3$ and CO maxima: source region and advection mechanism

Now that it is established that the mid-tropospheric  $O_3$  and CO maxima have tropospheric source regions, we can try to determine what the source regions are and how the pollution is advected to the Indian Ocean. For that, we first need to understand the dynamical processes in this region.

Africa is an important source region of pollutant emission of  $NO_x$  and CO (Crutzen

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and Carmichael, 1993; Roelofs et al., 1997). In particular, biomass burning is the major source of these pollutants (Crutzen and Andreae, 1990; Crutzen and Carmichael, 1993; Hao and Liu, 1994; Galanter et al., 2000; de Laat et al., 2001). CO production will also occur indirectly by way of oxidation of higher hydrocarbons, which are additionally emitted by biomass burning. The biomass-burning season in Africa is very much dependent on the time of year (Hao and Liu, 1994). Generally, biomass burning occurs during the local dry season, causing a maximum in pollution levels. Furthermore, enhanced O<sub>3</sub> formation occurs during the dry season because of increased photodissociation due to reduced cloudiness. On the other hand, O<sub>3</sub> formation will be reduced during the wet season because of smaller biomass burning emissions and reduced photodissociation due to increased cloudiness.

For the free troposphere the situation is different. CO is emitted at the surface (either directly or by oxidation of (higher) hydrocarbons), and gradually decreases away from its sources. This will result in the highest CO mixing ratios near the surface, and lower mixing ratios aloft. On the other hand, tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> is mostly produced by a catalytic reaction chain involving NO<sub>x</sub> (e.g. Graedel and Crutzen, 1993). Therefore not only will O<sub>3</sub> be produced close to the source regions of its precursors, but as the precursors are transported, it will also be produced during advection (Chatfield and Delaney, 1990; Pickering et al., 1992). This so-called “mix-then-cook” mechanism, in combination with O<sub>3</sub> removal that occurs at the surface, causes O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios to be generally higher in the free troposphere than at the surface. Furthermore, free tropospheric pollution is mostly removed by reaction with OH. In turn, OH depends largely on the presence of moisture (H<sub>2</sub>O). Because moisture decreases with altitude, the lifetime of O<sub>3</sub> and its precursors CO and NO<sub>x</sub> can become quite long, enabling plumes of pollution to travel long distances, especially under dry conditions as they occur in the descending branches of the Hadley circulation.

There exists a distinct difference in the chemical composition of the free troposphere over Africa between regions north and south of the equator due to differences in meteorology, emissions and photochemistry. Major convection occurs south of the equator

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during the winter monsoon period (Hastenrath, 1988), following the maximum in solar insolation, while biomass burning mainly occurs north of the equator (Hao and Liu, 1994). This will lead to differences in the free tropospheric chemical composition. The average modeled  $O_3$  and CO mixing ratios for February and March 1998 at the surface and at 10 km altitude as well as the modeled precipitation in Fig. 6 reflect these differences. The precipitation is, for February and March, restricted to the southern part of the African continent. The surface  $O_3$  and CO mixing ratios have a maximum north of the convective regions. Maximum free tropospheric CO mixing ratios are found at the edge of the regions with high surface  $O_3$  and CO mixing ratios and precipitation (Fig. 6). This maximum is more difficult to distinguish in free tropospheric  $O_3$ , because of the ongoing  $O_3$  production after air masses are advected away from the convection, and because of the influence of  $O_3$ s. Figure 6 also shows that at the 10 km altitude level CO is advected (on average) from central Africa along the northern and southern hemispheric subtropical jets (NH-STJ and SH-STJ) at  $20^\circ$ – $30^\circ$  towards the Indian Ocean. This advection cannot be discerned in the average  $O_3$  mixing ratios at 10 km because of the influence of stratospheric  $O_3$ . By looking at residual  $O_3$  (= tropospheric  $O_3$ , hereafter referred to as  $O_{3t}$ ), i.e. total  $O_3$  minus  $O_{3s}$  (Fig. 7), a pattern similar to CO for tropospheric  $O_3$  along NH-STJ exists. Advection of  $O_3$  from central Africa also occurs along the SH-STJ during February 1998, while it is absent in CO during the same month. This is also the result of the “mix-then-cook” chemistry of  $O_3$ , which causes  $O_3$  production away from the convective regions, even at moderate pollution levels.

The mechanism responsible for the advection along the subtropical jets can be determined from Figs. 8a and b, showing modeled  $O_3$ , CO,  $O_{3s}$  and  $O_{3t}$  and the wind fields for two days during March 1998 at 10 km altitude (10 and 13 March, Day of Year (DOY) 69 to 72). For clarity, only CO mixing ratios above 100 ppbv,  $O_3$  mixing ratios above 70 ppbv,  $O_{3s}$  mixing ratios above 50 ppbv and  $O_{3t}$  mixing ratios above 40 ppbv are shown.

On DOY 69, high CO mixing ratios are located over central Africa with corresponding  $O_3$  mixing ratios reaching 70 ppbv. A wave in the NH-STJ is approaching from the west

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(at 0° E), causing winds in front of the wave to change from westerly to southwesterly. The divergent flow (convective outflow) at 10 km altitude over central Africa is relatively constant. Therefore, the wave at the STJ causes an acceleration of the flow just south of the wave. This initiates advection of polluted African air masses. North of the NH-STJ O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios are high, reflecting the change in the height of the tropopause north and south of the STJ. Moreover, at the latitude with the highest wind speeds the largest gradients in O<sub>3</sub> occur. At the SH-STJ the increase in O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios is not as distinct as along the NH-STJ. No east-west oriented O<sub>3</sub> gradient exists along the SH-STJ, opposite to the NH-STJ. High O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios occur in bands that are associated with the frontal zones of low mid-latitude low-pressure areas. The cross-frontal circulation causes strong downward motions just behind the front, transporting O<sub>3</sub> from the stratosphere to the troposphere. The differences in O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios along the NH-STJ and SH-STJ reflect the differences in the dynamical structure of the STJ. The NH-STJ is generally stronger and more persistent than the SH-STJ (Hastenrat, 1998), which results in an east-west oriented NH-STJ and a more meandering SH-STJ. At the same time, a band with high O<sub>3</sub> is located along the SH-STJ over the southern tip of Africa (30° S, 25° E). Winds change from southwest to west at this band, indicative of a frontal zone.

The differences in O<sub>3s</sub> and O<sub>3t</sub> reflect the differences in CO and O<sub>3</sub>. O<sub>3s</sub> is high at the northern edge of the NH-STJ, whereas along the SH-STJ O<sub>3s</sub> is the cause of the high O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios. The highest O<sub>3t</sub> mixing ratios are located over central Africa, while it is being advected east along the subtropical jets. The relatively constant O<sub>3t</sub> mixing ratios along the subtropical jets indicate that O<sub>3</sub> production or depletion is small.

On DOY 72 the wave along the NH-STJ has advanced to the Arabian Sea, with advection of CO-rich air masses in the wake of the wave. The polluted air masses have advanced to over India. In the wake of the wave the circulation changes from westerly to southwesterly, thereby injecting the polluted air masses into the tropics. At the same time O<sub>3s</sub> descends into the tropical troposphere at the wave, but remains north of the African pollution. This STE over India may be enhanced by the interaction

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of the wave with the Himalayas and/or the Tibetan plateau. The frontal zone along the SH-STJ has advanced to 70° E. Polluted African air masses are advected eastward north of the frontal zone. O<sub>3</sub>s is transported downwards south of the frontal zone. The high O<sub>3</sub>t mixing ratios are clearly associated with high CO mixing ratios. Furthermore, high O<sub>3</sub>s and O<sub>3</sub>t mixing ratios do not occur simultaneously, but remain separated, indicating slow mixing.

As both the “northern wave” and the “southern front” continue to advance further east, the flow along the subtropical jets becomes westerly again, which will shut down the advection of polluted air masses from central Africa, while at the same time STE vanishes. Polluted air masses (CO and O<sub>3</sub>, the latter both from tropospheric and stratospheric origin) have entered the descending branches of the Hadley circulation, and will be slowly advected towards the ITCZ. The pollution is gradually removed during this advection.

This sequence will occur every time waves or fronts travel along the subtropical jets. It is important to note that, as these fronts have passed the African continent, they will be rich in O<sub>3</sub> *both* poleward (stratospheric O<sub>3</sub>) and equatorward (tropospheric pollution) of the subtropical jets. Therefore, high free tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios over the Indian Ocean are not an indication of a stratospheric origin, even though trajectories indicate advection along the subtropical jets. Low humidity is also not an indicator for a stratospheric origin because air masses dry out very rapidly in the downward branch of the Hadley circulation. Frontal mixing of air masses may complicate the situation even more.

## 6. Upper tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> laminae: model interpretation

The comparison of O<sub>3</sub> profiles with model results indicates that the model produces enhanced O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios at 14 and 16 km altitude. The model cannot reproduce these layers exactly in location and mixing ratios. The strong decrease of CO mixing ratios at 14 and 16 km indicates that little convective transport occurs to altitudes above

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12 to 14 km. Modeled  $O_3$  mixing ratios at 14 and 16 km altitude for 1998 are generally higher than those between 8 to 12 km altitude. Decreased convective transport of  $O_3$ -precursors does not cause a strong decrease in  $O_3$  mixing ratios. Increased ultraviolet radiation could enhance  $O_3$  formation, and STE may cause some additional transport.

5  $O_3$  laminae appear to be absent close to or at the ITCZ, where low  $O_3$  mixing ratios often extend all the way up to the tropopause (e.g. 1995 profiles 8 to 13, 1998 profile 6). An explanation may be the difference between normal or “single cell” convection, and organized convection in tropical storms and cyclones. Normal convection generally does not reach the tropopause (Folkens et al., 1999). On the other hand,  
10 organized convection does reach the tropopause, thereby transporting marine boundary layer air masses, which are low in  $O_3$ , all the way up to the tropopause. Cyclones occur mostly close to the equator over the tropical (Indian) ocean, while decreasing in strength and frequency and occurrence towards higher latitudes. Furthermore, the upper-tropospheric average flow along the equator is westward. Thus, after a cyclone  
15 has “cleaned” the troposphere, the upper-tropospheric  $O_3$ -depleted air masses will slowly move to the west around the equator. A possible explanation may be tropical cyclone activity. During the 1995 campaign, a tropical cyclone was located over the central Indian Ocean (“Marlene”) just south of the equator (Baray et al., 1999; de Laat et al., 1999). A trajectory study for the 1995 profiles 7, 8 and 9 showed some trajectories being lifted by “Marlene” from the central Indian Ocean marine boundary layer to  
20 the upper tropical troposphere (de Laat et al., 1999).

To determine the source of modeled  $O_3$  at 14 and 16 km altitude, Fig. 9 shows modeled  $O_3$ ,  $O_3s$  and residual  $O_3$  at the 16 km altitude level. The contribution of residual  $O_3$  at tropical latitudes is equal to or even higher than the contribution of  $O_3s$ .  $O_3s$  starts to dominate towards the subtropical jets, as can be expected because of transport, and the fact that the tropopause height at mid-latitudes is much lower. However, a considerable amount of residual (tropospheric)  $O_3$  still exists at subtropical latitudes at the 16 km altitude level. Evidently, even though convection generally does not reach the altitude of 16 km, the remaining vertical transport results in a chemical composition of the  
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atmosphere at 16 km that favors O<sub>3</sub> formation. Therefore, the upper-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> laminae are probably of both tropical (transport and in situ formation) and stratospheric (transport) origin.

## 7. Summary

5 In this study I have analyzed INDOEX O<sub>3</sub> profiles measured during the Indian winter monsoon period from two ship campaigns during 1995 and 1998. A comparison was made with O<sub>3</sub> profiles obtained from model simulations with the nudged version of the 3-Dimensional global chemistry circulation model ECHAM. We point out that:

- 10 – The model reproduces the general features of the O<sub>3</sub> profiles over the Indian Ocean: low boundary layer O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios, the mid-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> maxima between the boundary layer and approximately 8 km altitude, O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios in the convective outflow region between 8 and 12 to 14 km altitude, which may be either high or low, and elevated O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios between 12 to 14 km altitude and the tropopause (approximately 17 km over the Indian Ocean). Furthermore, 15 with the exception of the upper-tropospheric maxima, modeled and measured O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios are comparable. The model also reproduces the individual profiles in the descending branches of the Hadley circulation very well, both north and south of the ITCZ.
- 20 – Modeled peaks in mid-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> are associated with peaks in CO. Because of the relation between O<sub>3</sub> and CO the mid-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> peaks must be of tropospheric origin. This is confirmed by modeled O<sub>3</sub>s profiles; apart from the 1998 profiles 13 and 14, O<sub>3</sub>s does not contribute more than 20% to the total O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios at any tropospheric level.
- 25 – The model cannot reproduce the O<sub>3</sub> profiles close to the ITCZ in detail. This is most evident for the 1995 profiles because a number of them were measured at,

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or close to, the ITCZ. The most likely explanation is that the model does not reproduce the exact location of the ITCZ convection because of the low horizontal resolution and the fact that convection is a sub-grid scale process. Furthermore, the model cannot reproduce the 1998 profile taken close to the Indian coast (profile 15).

- The measurements show upper-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> laminae between approximately 12 to 14 km and the tropopause, often with O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios exceeding 100 ppbv. The O<sub>3</sub> laminae are most obvious at subtropical latitudes, while they appear to be absent around the equator and the ITCZ. This indicates that the residual layer may originate from regions around the subtropical jets. The residual layer around the equator and the ITCZ may be removed by organized convection in tropical storms and cyclones. The model simulation shows enhanced O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios at 14 and 16 km altitude, although it cannot reproduce enhanced O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios for all profiles with upper-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> laminae. Furthermore, modeled upper-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios are generally lower than measured O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios at 14 and 16 km altitude, whereas upper-tropospheric CO mixing ratios generally decrease sharply. This indicates a decrease in convective mixing.

# 8. Discussion

The analysis of model simulations reveals the mechanism behind the mid-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> peaks in the downward branches of the Hadley circulation. During the winter monsoon period a mid and upper-tropospheric “reservoir” of polluted air masses with high O<sub>3</sub> and CO mixing ratios is present over central Africa. This “reservoir” is fueled by surface biomass burning in equatorial Africa. Upper-tropospheric divergence due to convective outflow causes the pollution to slowly propagate north and south over Africa. Waves or frontal zones propagate along the subtropical jets and cause winds along the equatorward edges of the STJ to change from an east-west direction to south-west

(NH) or north-west (SH). This causes advection of polluted air masses from the African reservoir to the edge of the subtropical jets. At the STJ the polluted air masses are advected eastward in front of the frontal zone. The polluted air masses enter the downward branches of the Hadley circulation over the Indian Ocean, causing an increase in  $O_3$  and CO mixing ratios. In addition to this mechanism air masses of stratospheric origin may enter the troposphere at the back of the frontal zones that propagate along the STJ. However, the model simulations also indicate that  $O_3$ s is not advected that deep into the tropics. Furthermore, due to their slow downward motion over the subtropical Indian Ocean the polluted tropospheric air masses dry out. This results in very low humidity, which could easily be misinterpreted as a stratospheric signature, while it is simply a result of local dynamics.

Studies by Thompson et al. (1996) and Chatfield et al. (1996) for the SAFARI (Southern Africa Fire Atmospheric Research Initiative) and TRACE A (Transport and Atmospheric Chemistry Near the Equator-Atlantic) campaigns show a remarkable resemblance with the analysis presented in this study, even though the above mentioned studies were carried out for October 1992. Part of the mid-tropospheric air masses over central and southern Africa are advected southeast and subsequently along the SH-STJ eastward over the southern Indian Ocean (plate 3 and 4 of Thompson et al., 1996; Fig. 1 of Chatfield et al., 1996). Furthermore, part of the air masses are also advected to northern Africa and then along the NH-STJ eastward over southern Asia (plate 4 of Thompson et al., 1996).

The observed  $O_3$  laminae over the Indian Ocean also occur at altitudes higher than "normal" convection generally reaches, much like the reported upper-tropospheric  $O_3$  laminae by Folkins et al. (1999). This contributes to the idea of the upper tropical troposphere as a part of the troposphere that undergoes little interaction with the rest of the troposphere. As a consequence, these layers may be very persistent.

Modeled (sub-) tropical  $O_3$  mixing ratios at 14 and 16 km altitude levels are generally higher than in the convective outflow region between 8 to 12 km, the latter often recognizable by peaks in CO mixing ratios. The model cannot reproduce the exact shape of,

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and the O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios at, the measured upper-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> laminae. This may be related to the too coarse vertical model resolution in this region.

There is a large discrepancy between measured and modeled O<sub>3</sub> in 1998 profile 14. The measured profile shows a maximum just above the boundary layer, which is absent in the modeled profile. A similar layer has also been reported for aerosol measurements (Leon et al., 2001; Müller et al., 2001; Reiner et al., 2001), CO (de Laat et al., 2001; Reiner et al., 2001), acetone, acetonitrile and SO<sub>2</sub> (Reiner et al., 2001). A likely explanation for this feature is the local sea breeze circulation at the Indian coasts (de Laat et al. 2001; Leon et al., 2001). The sea breeze circulation causes polluted continental air masses to be lifted above the (marine) boundary layer after which they are advected from the continent to the ocean. The pollution will be restricted to a shallow layer above the (marine) boundary layer because of the large-scale subsidence over the northern Indian Ocean (the downward branch of the Hadley circulation). The ECHAM model resolution is too coarse to simulate the sea-breeze circulation. In addition, the measured O<sub>3</sub> profile has a mid-tropospheric minimum, whereas the modeled profile has a maximum, corresponding with a maximum in modeled O<sub>3</sub>s. A wave in the NH-STJ passed over northern India during the measurements of 1998 profile 14. This caused stratospheric air to enter the troposphere over northern India. The location where the profile was measured in the model (just west of India) was at the edge of this “O<sub>3</sub>s-plume”, with the maximum in O<sub>3</sub>s located further east. Thus, the modeled profile was taken in an area with large horizontal O<sub>3</sub> gradients.

## 9. Conclusions

In this study we have shown that the nudged ECHAM model can reproduce measured O<sub>3</sub> profiles from two pre-INDOEX campaigns. The subtropical Indian Ocean atmosphere consists of low boundary layer O<sub>3</sub>, mid-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> maxima, either O<sub>3</sub> minima or maxima at the convective outflow region (8–12 km), and O<sub>3</sub> laminae between the convective outflow region and the tropopause. The O<sub>3</sub> maxima in the

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mid-troposphere as well as in the convective outflow region are caused by advection of polluted tropical African air masses. This advection is closely related to the passage of waves and frontal zones along the subtropical jets. Such waves or fronts also cause transport of stratospheric air masses to the troposphere, but model simulations show that stratospheric air masses generally do not advance deep into the tropics.

The upper-tropospheric O<sub>3</sub> laminae may be caused by a combination of in situ O<sub>3</sub> production and STE. These layers may be removed by organized tropical convection in tropical storms and cyclones. The ECHAM model produces a residual layer with enhanced O<sub>3</sub> mixing ratios at similar altitudes (between 12 to 14 and 17 km) as where O<sub>3</sub> laminae with high mixing ratios were measured. The modeled residual layer consists of a mixture of tropospheric and stratospheric air masses.

Most discrepancies between observations and model simulations are attributed to the model resolution. Therefore, a more detailed study in the near future will be carried out with a model that has a higher resolution both in horizontal and vertical directions.

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**Table 1.** Location and dates of sonde launch during the 1995 INDOEX-cruise with the American R/V Malcolm Baldrige. Sondes were launched around noon local time

Sounding	Date	Latitude	Longitude
6	April 2, 1995	19.5°S	55.0°E
7	April 4, 1995	18.0°S	55.0°E
8	April 5, 1995	16.0°S	55.0°E
9	April 6, 1995	13.6°S	55.0°E
10	April 7, 1995	11.7°S	54.1°E
11	April 9, 1995	9.6°S	51.9°E
12	April 10, 1995	8.3°S	52.3°E
13	April 11, 1995	6.7°S	52.9°E
14	April 12, 1995	3.7°S	55.0°E
15	April 13, 1995	1.0°S	55.0°E
16	April 14, 1995	1.3°N	56.7°E
17	April 15, 1995	2.9°N	58.2°E
18	April 16, 1995	4.5°N	59.7°E
19	April 17, 1995	6.7°N	61.7°E
20	April 18, 1995	8.2°N	63.0°E
21	April 20, 1995	7.6°N	73.1°E

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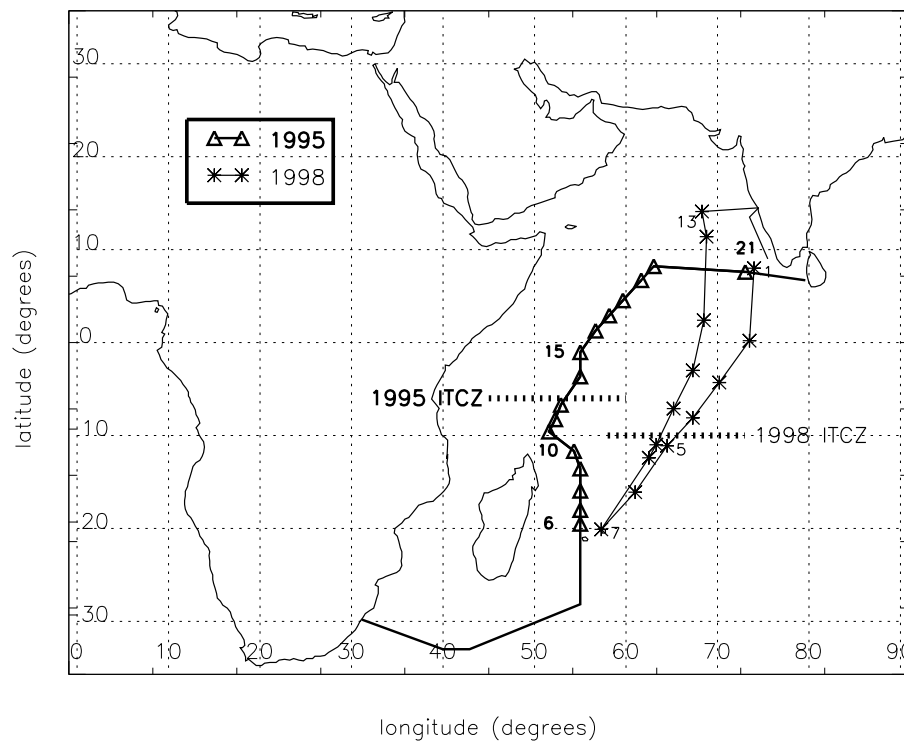
**Table 2.** Location and dates of sonde launch during the First Field Phase (FFP, 1998) INDOEX-cruise with the Indian R/V Sagar Kanya. Sondes were launched in the early afternoon or evening (local time)

Sounding	Date	Latitude	Longitude
1	Feb 23, 1998	8.0 °N	74.0 °E
2	March 2, 1998	0.2 °S	73.5 °E
3	March 4, 1998	4.3 °S	70.2 °E
4	March 6, 1998	8.1 °S	67.3 °E
5	March 8, 1998	11.1 °S	64.5 °E
6	March 10, 1998	16.1 °S	61.0 °E
7	March 13, 1998	20.1 °S	57.3 °E
8	March 18, 1998	12.4 °S	62.5 °E
9	March 19, 1998	11.0 °S	63.3 °E
10	March 20, 1998	7.1 °S	65.2 °E
11	March 22, 1998	3.0 °N	67.3 °E
12	March 24, 1998	2.4 °N	68.5 °E
13	March 27, 1998	11.4 °N	68.8 °E
14	March 28, 1998	14.1 °N	68.3 °E

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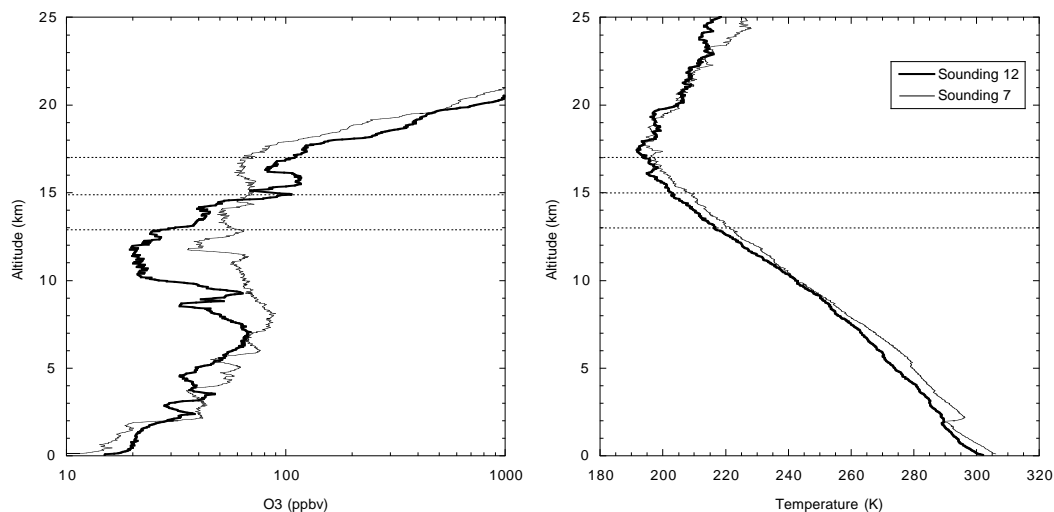
**Fig. 1.** Ship tracks of the 1995 (R/V Malcolm Baldrige) and 1998 (R/V Sagar Kanya) INDOEX cruises. The locations of the ozone sonde launches as summarized in Tables 1 and 2 are also indicated.

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**Fig. 2.** Temperature (K) and O<sub>3</sub> (ppbv) from two profiles (No 7 and 12) taken during the 1998 pre-INDOEX campaign on board of the Indian R/V Sagar Kanya. The thin line is profile No 7, the thick line profile No 12. The horizontal axis is a logarithmic scale, similar to Folkins et al. 1999). For location and launch date, see Table 2.

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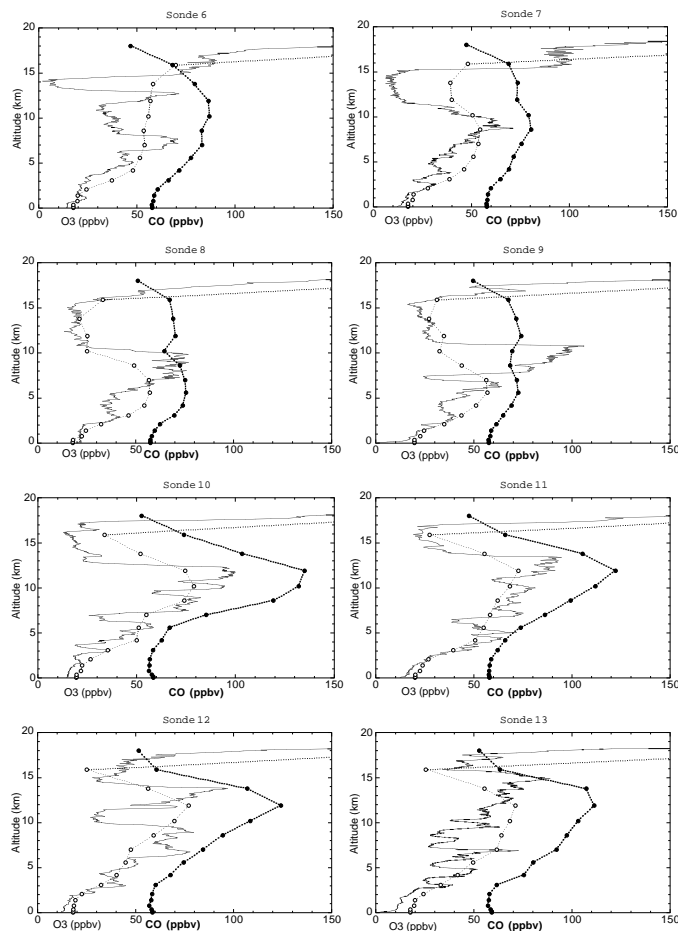
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**Fig. 3a.** Vertical O<sub>3</sub> profiles from the 1995 INDOEX cruise profiles No 6 to 13 (solid thin lines), along with the corresponding O<sub>3</sub> (dashed thin line, open circles) and CO (dashed thick lines, filled circles) profiles from the ECHAM model. Mixing ratios are given in ppbv. For the location and launch time, see Table 1.

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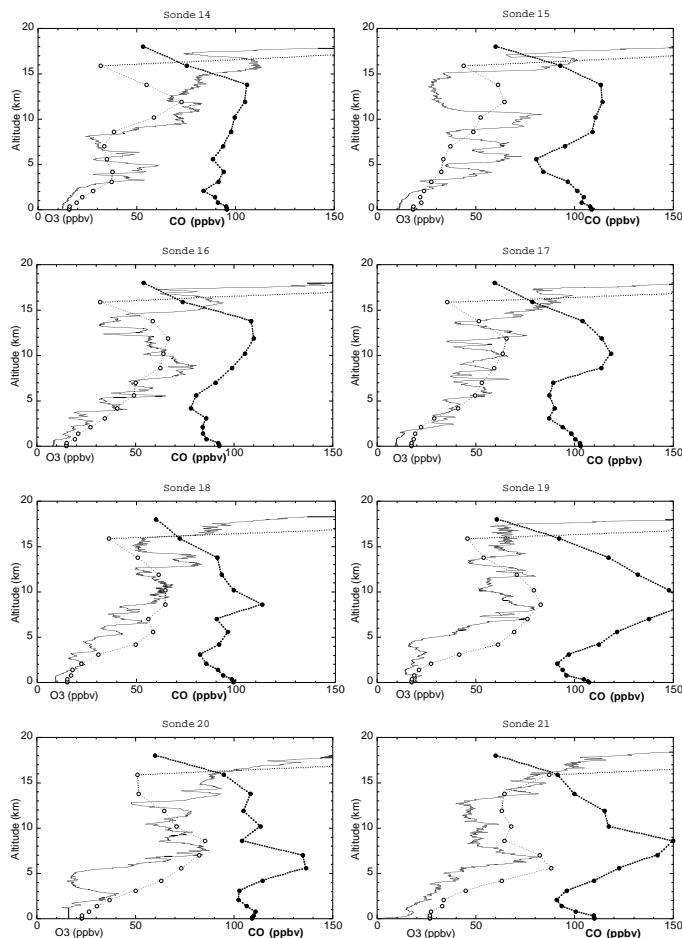
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**Fig. 3b.** Similar to Fig. 3a but for profiles No 14 to 21.

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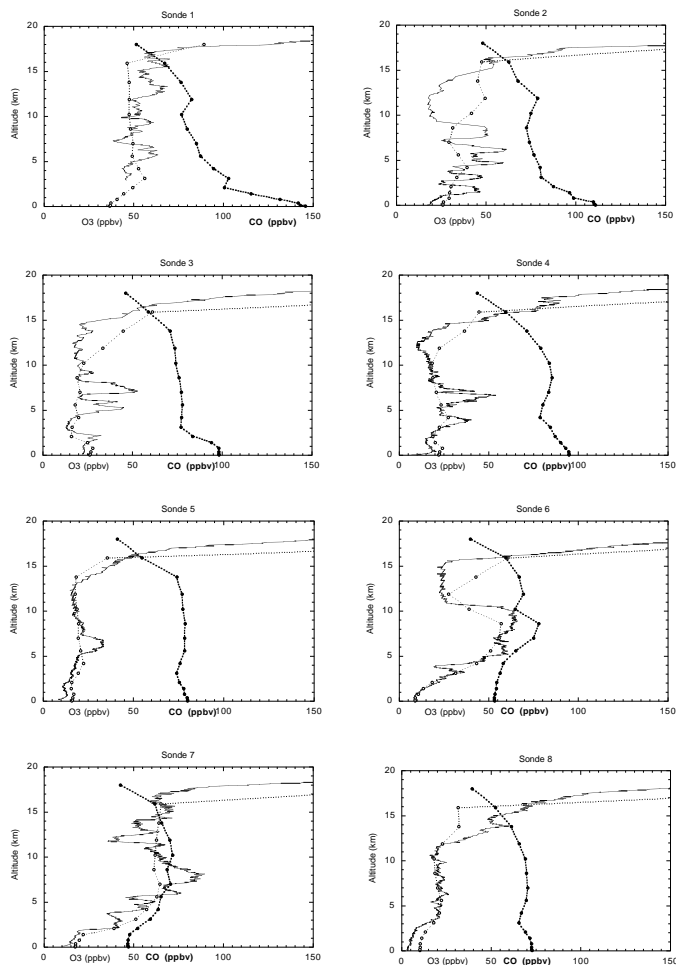
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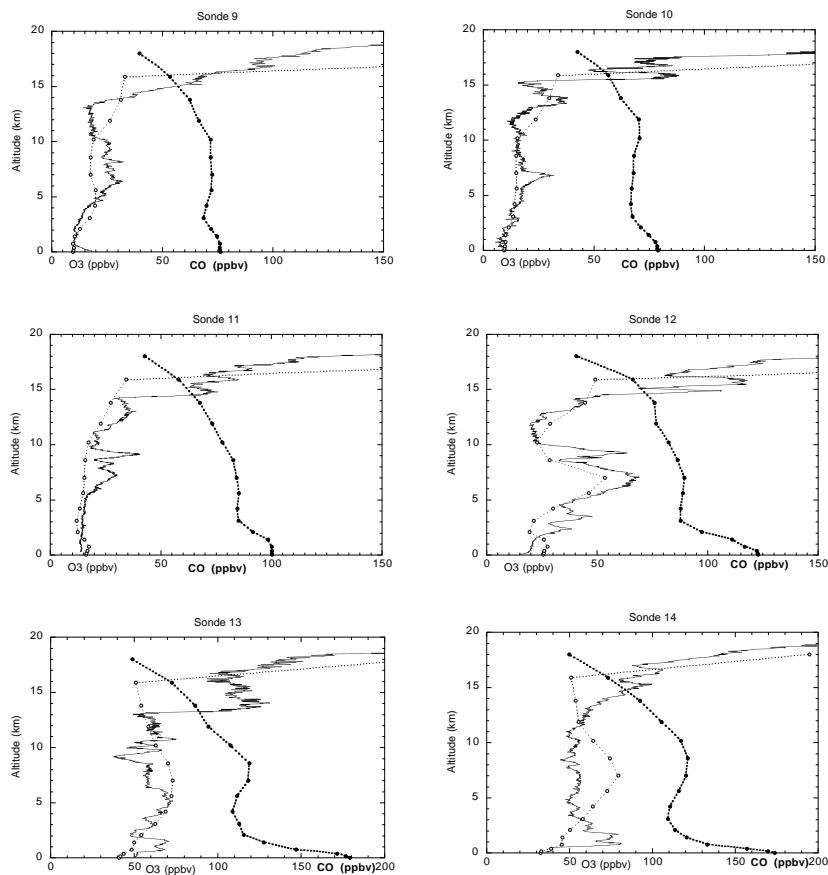


**Fig. 4a.** Similar to Fig. 3a but for the 1998 INDOEX profiles No 1 to 8.



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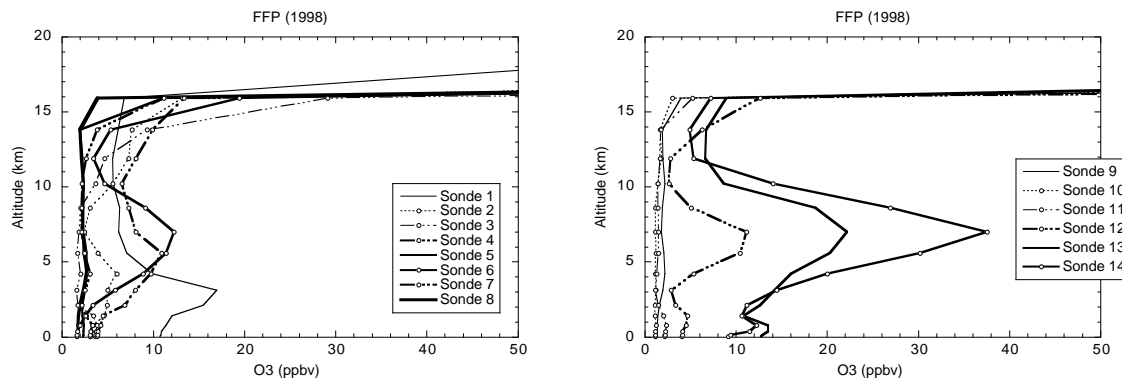


**Fig. 4b.** Similar to Fig. 3a but for 1998 INDOEX cruise profiles No 9 to 14.

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**Fig. 5.** Vertical profiles of O<sub>3</sub> of stratospheric origin (O<sub>3</sub>s) from the ECHAM model, for the 1998 profiles. The right panel shows 1998 profiles 1–8, the left panel shows profiles 9–14. Mixing ratios in ppbv.

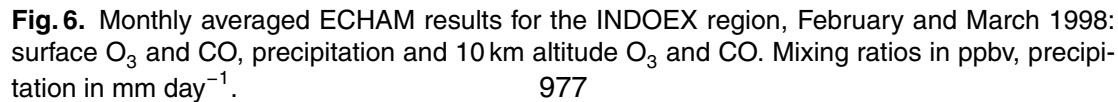
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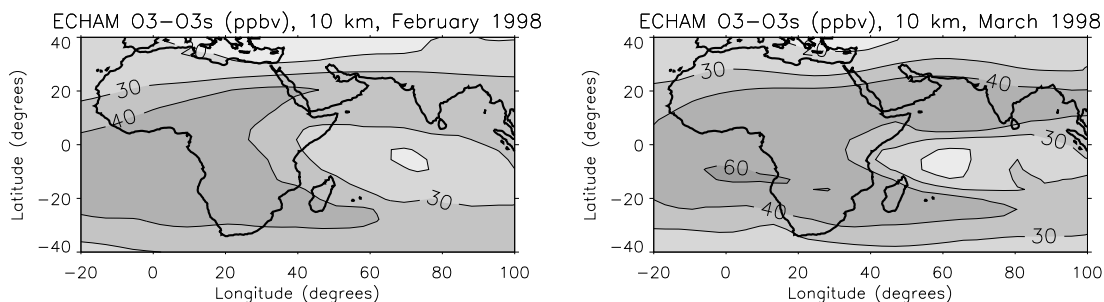
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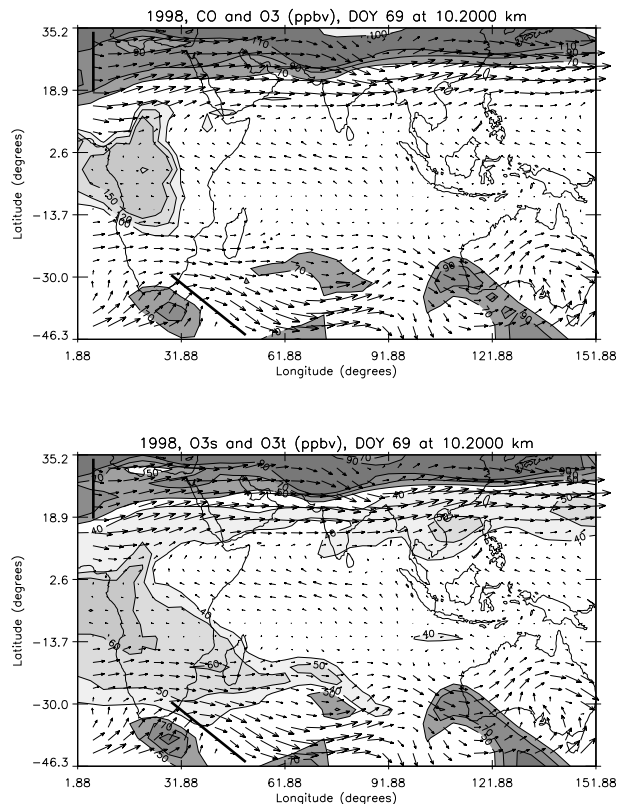


**Fig. 7.** Monthly averaged ECHAM residual O<sub>3</sub> (O<sub>3</sub> minus O<sub>3s</sub>) for February and March 1998 at 10 km altitude in ppbv.

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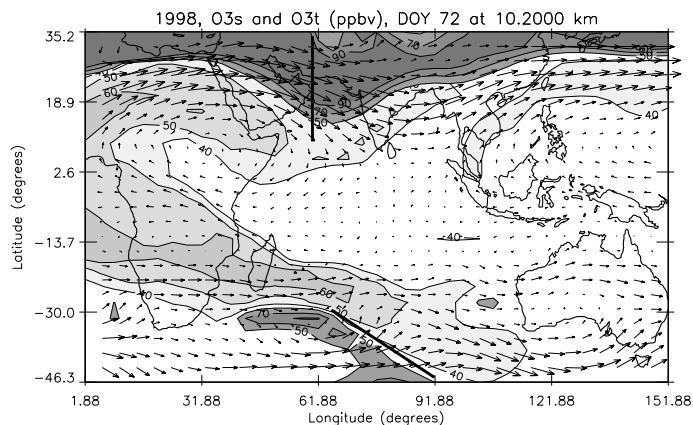
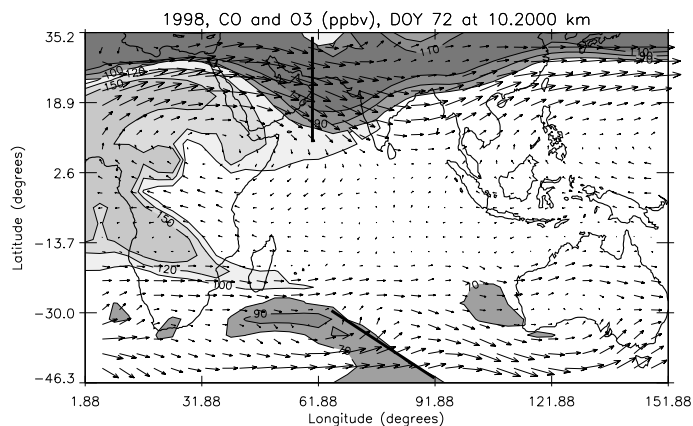
**Fig. 8a.** ECHAM model results at 10 km altitude over the INDOEX region for 10 March (DOY 69, 00:00 GMT): wind field in arbitrary units. Upper panel: CO (contour intervals: 100, 120 and 150 ppbv) in lighter colors, O<sub>3</sub> (contour intervals: 70, 90 and 110 ppbv) in darker colors. Lower panel: O<sub>3</sub>t (contour intervals: 40, 50, and 60 ppbv) in lighter colors, O<sub>3</sub>s (contour intervals: 50, 70 and 90 ppbv) in darker colors. The location of the two waves/frontal zones that are described in the text are indicated by the thick black lines.

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**Fig. 8b.** Similar to Fig. 8a, but for 13 March (DOY 72 00:00 GMT).

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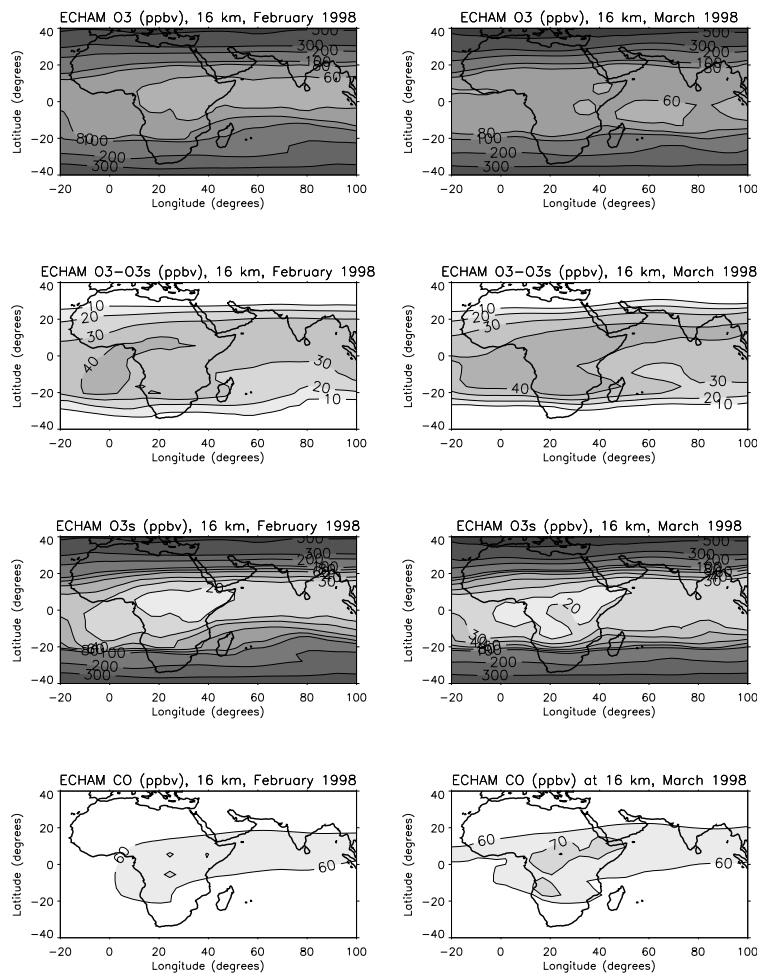
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**Fig. 9.** Monthly-averaged ECHAM results for the INDOEX region, during February and March 1998 at 16 km altitude: O<sub>3</sub>, O<sub>3s</sub> and residual O<sub>3</sub> (O<sub>3</sub> minus O<sub>3s</sub>), all in ppbv.